

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1 and 3-36 without prejudice, and add claims 37-56, all as indicated below in the detailed listing of claims.

Claims 1-36 (cancelled).

Claim 37 (new). A foldable ramp, comprising:

a substantially straight pivot bar; and

at least four section components, wherein:

each section component comprises a substantially flat deck panel and a pair of substantially parallel, juxtaposed, spaced-apart side flanges extending substantially normally from the deck panel;

each side flange defines an opening, wherein the openings of each section component are in substantially juxtaposed alignment;

at least two section components are arranged in a substantially parallel, side-by-side orientation to form a first ramp section;

at least two section components are arranged in a substantially parallel, side-by-side orientation to form a second ramp section; and

the pivot bar is disposed through each opening of each section component to pivotally join the first ramp section with the second ramp section.

Claim 39 (new). The ramp of claim 37, wherein each flange is at least as long as the associated deck panel.

Claim 40 (new). The ramp of claim 37, wherein each flange is longer than the associated deck panel.

Claim 41 (new). The ramp of claim 37, wherein the respective section components of each ramp section are fixedly joined to one another.

1 Claim 42 (new). The ramp of claim 41, wherein the section components are joined by
2 welding.

3 Claim 43 (new). The ramp of claim 37, wherein each section component is fabricated
4 from a single metal plate.

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6 Claim 44 (new). The ramp of claim 37, wherein each section component is a single,
7 unitary piece of material.

8 Claim 45 (new). The ramp of claim 37, wherein:

9 each ramp section comprises a respective pair of outer section components and
10 a respective center section component; and

11 the flanges of the center section component of the second ramp section fit
12 between the flanges of the center section component of the first ramp section.

13 Claim 46 (new). The ramp of claim 45, wherein the respective flanges of each outer
14 section component of the first ramp section fit between the flanges of the associated
15 outer section of the second ramp section.

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1 Claim 47 (new). A foldable ramp, comprising:

2 a first pivot bar, a second pivot bar, and a third pivot bar; and

3 a first ramp section, a second ramp section, a third ramp section, and a fourth
4 ramp section, each comprising a respective runway a respective pair of substantially
5 parallel, juxtaposed, spaced-apart outer flanges extending substantially normally from
6 the runway, wherein:

7 each flange of the first ramp section defines an opening, wherein the
8 openings are in substantially juxtaposed alignment;

9 each flange of the second ramp section defines a first opening and a
10 second opening, wherein the first openings are in substantially juxtaposed
11 alignment and the second openings are in substantially juxtaposed alignment;

12 each flange of the third ramp section defines a first opening and a second
13 opening, wherein the first openings are in substantially juxtaposed alignment and
14 the second openings are in substantially juxtaposed alignment;

15 each flange of the fourth ramp section defines an opening, wherein the
16 openings are in substantially juxtaposed alignment;

17 the flanges of the first ramp section fit between the flanges of the second
18 ramp section;

19 the flanges of the second ramp section fit between the flanges of the third
20 ramp section;

21 the flanges of the third ramp section fit between the flanges of the fourth
22 ramp section;

23 the first pivot bar is disposed through each opening of the first ramp
24 section and each first opening of the second ramp section to pivotally join the first
25 and second ramp sections;

26 the second pivot bar is disposed through each second opening of the
27 second ramp section and each first opening of the third ramp section to pivotally
28 join the second and third ramp sections; and

the third pivot bar is disposed through each second opening of the third ramp section and each opening of the fourth ramp section to pivotally join the third and fourth ramp sections.

Claim 48 (new). The ramp of claim 47, wherein:

the first ramp section is narrower than the second ramp section;

the second ramp section is narrower than the third ramp section; and

the third ramp section is narrower than the fourth ramp section.

Claim 49 (new). The ramp of claim 48, the ramp being configured to fold, wherein:

the first ramp section can pivot about the first pivot bar to be substantially parallel, and in juxtaposed relation, to the second ramp section;

the first and second ramp sections together can then pivot about the second pivot bar to be substantially parallel, and in juxtaposed relation, to the third ramp section; and

the first, second, and third ramp sections together can then pivot about the third pivot bar to be substantially parallel, and in juxtaposed relation, to the fourth ramp section.

Claim 50 (new). The ramp of claim 49, wherein after being folded:

the first, second, third, and fourth ramp sections are substantially parallel, and in juxtaposed relation, to each other;

the first ramp section is between the second ramp section and the third ramp section; and

the second ramp section is between the third ramp section and the fourth ramp section.

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1 Claim 51 (new). A foldable ramp, comprising:

2 a first pivot bar, a second pivot bar, and a third pivot bar;

3 a first ramp section, comprising a plurality of first section components, each of
4 which comprises a deck panel and a pair of substantially parallel, juxtaposed, spaced-
apart first side flanges, each of which defines an opening;

5 a second ramp section, comprising a plurality of second section components, each of
6 which comprises a deck panel and a pair of substantially parallel, juxtaposed
spaced-apart second side flanges, each of which defines a first opening and a second
7 opening;

8 a third ramp section, comprising a plurality of third section components, each of
9 which comprises a deck panel and a pair of substantially parallel, juxtaposed, spaced-
10 apart third side flanges, each of which defines a first opening and a second opening;
11 and

12 a fourth ramp section, comprising a plurality of fourth section components, each of
13 which comprises a deck panel and a pair of substantially parallel, juxtaposed, spaced-
14 apart fourth flanges, each of which defines an opening, wherein:

15 the first pivot bar is disposed through each of the first side flange openings
16 and through each of the second side flange first openings to pivotally join the first
17 and second ramp sections;

18 the second pivot bar is disposed through each of the second side flange
19 second openings and through each of the third side flange first openings to
20 pivotally join the second and third ramp sections; and

21 the third pivot bar is disposed through each of the third side flange second
22 openings and through each of the fourth side flange openings to pivotally join the
23 third and fourth ramp sections.

24 Claim 52 (new). The ramp of claim 51, wherein:

25 the first ramp section is narrower than the second ramp section;

the second ramp section is narrower than the third ramp section; and

the third ramp section is narrower than the fourth ramp section.

1 Claim 53 (new). The ramp of claim 51, the ramp being configured to fold, wherein:

2 the first ramp section can pivot about the first pivot bar to be substantially
3 parallel, and in juxtaposed relation, to the second ramp section;

4 the first and second ramp sections together can then pivot about the second
5 pivot bar to be substantially parallel, and in juxtaposed relation, to the third ramp
section; and

6 the first, second, and third ramp sections together can then pivot about the third
7 pivot bar to be substantially parallel, and in juxtaposed relation, to the fourth ramp
section.

9 Claim 54 (new). The ramp of claim 53, wherein after being folded:

10 the first, second, third, and fourth ramp sections are substantially parallel, and in
11 juxtaposed relation, to each other;

12 the first ramp section is between the second ramp section and the third ramp
section; and

13 the second ramp section is between the third ramp section and the fourth ramp
section.

15 Claim 55 (new). The ramp of claim 51, wherein the respective section components of
16 each ramp section are fixedly joined to one another.

18 Claim 56 (new). The ramp of claim 55, wherein the section components are joined by
19 welding.

24 -- End of Amendments to the Claims --